

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 2 - 4, 7, and 12 – 21 were previously cancelled. Claims 25 - 27, 30, and 31 are cancelled herein. Claims 1, 5, 8, 9, 28, and 29 have been amended herein. All of the pending claims are presented below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. Please enter these claims as amended.

Listing of the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A formulation, comprising:

spinosad in combination with 5-chloro-1-(2,6-dichloro-4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-4-(4,5-dicyano-1H-imidazol-2-yl)-3-methylisopropyl-1-H pyrazole or a salt thereof, wherein, ~~at a spinosyn dosage of less than or equal to about 30 mg/kg~~, the formulation is capable of achieving an efficacy of at least 90% in controlling minimizing flea and tick infestations in an animal for at least 7 days after administration of the formulation as may be determined by a parasite assessment test.

2. through 4. (Canceled).

5. (Currently amended) The formulation according to claim 1, wherein the ratio of the 5-chloro-1-(2,6-dichloro-4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-4-(4,5-dicyano-1H-imidazol-2-yl)-3-methylisopropyl-1-H pyrazole or a salt thereof to the spinosad is from about 1:10 to about 10:1.

6. (Previously presented) A method of controlling an ectoparasite infestation in an animal, wherein persistent efficacy against flea and ticks is achieved for at least 7 days after treatment, the method comprising:

simultaneously or sequentially administering to the animal the formulation of claim 1, wherein the spinosad is administered to the animal at a dosage of less than or equal to 30 mg/kg so as to achieve persistent efficacy of at least 90% in killing fleas and ticks for at least 7 days after the treatment.

7. (Canceled).

8. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 6, wherein the spinosad and the 5-chloro-1-(2,6-dichloro-4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-4-(4,5-dicyano-1H-imidazol-2-yl)-3-methylisopropyl -1-H pyrazole or a salt thereof are administered simultaneously.

9. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 8, wherein the spinosad and the 5-chloro-1-(2,6-dichloro-4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-4-(4,5-dicyano-1H-imidazol-2-yl)-3-methylisopropyl -1-H pyrazole or a salt thereof are in a single preparation.

10. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein the ectoparasites are ticks.

11. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein the ectoparasites are fleas.

12. through 21. (Canceled).

22. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 6 further comprising: on a weekly basis, subsequently administering to the animal a reduced dosage of the formulation so as to maintain 90% efficacy against ticks for up to 7 days after the subsequent administration.

23. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 22, wherein the reduced dosage comprises less than or equal to about 15 mg/kg of the spinosad.

24. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 22, wherein the animal has been reinfested.

25. through 27. (Canceled).

28. (Currently amended) The formulation of claim 27, wherein, at a spinosad dosage of between about 15 mg/kg and about 30 mg/kg, the formulation is capable of achieving an efficacy of at least 90% in ~~controlling~~ minimizing flea and tick infestations in an animal for at least 7 days after administration of the formulation.

29. (Currently amended) A method of ~~controlling~~ minimizing an ectoparasite infestation in an animal, wherein persistent efficacy against flea and ticks is achieved for at least 7 days after treatment, the method comprising:

simultaneously or sequentially administering to the animal the formulation of claim [[25]]1, wherein the one or more spinosyns are administered to the animal at a first dosage of less than or equal to 30 mg/kg; and
subsequently, simultaneously or sequentially administering to the animal a reduced dosage of the formulation ~~of claim 25~~, wherein the reduced dosage is less than the first dosage.

30. and 31. (Canceled).